

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/CA2005/000484

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC(7): E04H 17/20, E04F 11/02, E04F 11/18

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC(7): E04H 17/20, E04F 11/02, E04F 11/18  
US Classes 52/155-168, 52/736.1 - 736.4, 256/65.14, 248/251

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic database(s) consulted during the international search (name of database(s) and, where practicable, search terms used)

Delphion, Espacenet, USPTO, Canadian Patent Database

Keywords: Post, Railing, Balustrade, Handrail, Fence, Support, Shoe, Footing, Anchor, Composite, Multi

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<b>Groupe A Claims 1 to 5 and 12 to 17</b> US 6 141 928 (PLATT) 7 November 2000 (07-11-2000) The whole document	1 to 3 and 12 to 15
Y		4, 5, 16, 17
Y	WO 91/13222 (DICKINSON) 5 September 1991 (05-09-1991) Fig. 2	4, 5, 16, 17
Y	US 4 050 828 (NORO) 27 September 1977 (27-09-1977) Fig. 7	4, 5, 16, 17
Y	US 3 633 862 (BREEN) 11 January 1972 (11-01-1972) Fig. 2	4, 5, 16, 17
A	EP 984 118 A2 (NOLAN) 8 March 2000 (08-03-2000) Fig. 11 and 12	1 and 12
A	US 6 568 145 (BARTEL) 27 May 2003 (27-05-2003) Fig. 2	1 to 4 and 12 to 17

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

+	Special categories of cited documents :	
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E"	earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

12 May 2005 (12-05-2005)

Date of mailing of the international search report

19 July 2005 (19-07-2005)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/CA  
Canadian Intellectual Property Office  
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### Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of the first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons :

1.  Claim Nos. :  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely :
  
2.  Claim Nos. :  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically :
  
3.  Claim Nos. :  
because they are dependant claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

### Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows :

The claims on file are directed to three distinctive groups of invention.

Group A, with regard to claims 1 to 5 and 12 to 17, is directed to a post system for a railing comprising a post base having an inner member and an outer member encasing the inner member where the inner and outer members are constructed of a first and a second material respectively.

[See Supplemental Sheet]

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claim Nos. :
  
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claim Nos. : 1 to 5 and 12 to 17

**Remark on Protest**  The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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Continuation of Box III:

Group B, with regard to claims 6 to 10, is directed to a post system for a railing comprising a railing post and an insert insertable into the first end of the railing post.

Group C, with regard to claim 11, is directed to a post system for a railing comprising a post base connectable with a first end of a railing post. The base post comprises a base member and a housing member engaging the first end of the railing post.

NB: Claims 12 to 17 have been joined to group A, but may be joined to any of the above noted groups as they contain the subject matter of groups A, B and C.

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Information on patent family members

International application No.  
PCT/CA2005/000484**Group A: claims 1 to 5 and 12 to 17:**

Patent Document Cited in Search Report	Publication Date	Patent Family Member(s)	Publication Date
US6141928	07-11-2000	NONE	
WO9113222	05-09-1991	AU635113 B2 AU7124491 A JP5506486T T NZ237190 A	11-03-1993 29-08-1991 22-09-1993 23-12-1992
US4050828	27-09-1977	US3962774 A	15-06-1976
US3633862	11-01-1972	NONE	
EP984118 A2	08-03-2000	IE990743 A1 US6412244 B2	05-04-2000 02-07-2002
US6568145	27-05-2003	US6290212 B1	18-09-2001